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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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STAAS & HALSEY LLP
SUITE 700
1201 NEW YORK AVENUE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, DC 20005

EXAMINER

ORTIZ, BELIX M

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2175

DATE MAILED: 04/22/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/026,458

Applicant(s)

AKAZAWA ET AL.

Examiner

Belix M. Ortiz

Art Unit

2175

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-13 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-13 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- 1) ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - 2) ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 - 3) ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

DOV POPOVICI
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECNOLOGY CENTER 2100

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 2.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: ____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 1-2 and 4-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Otobe (U.S. Pub. No. 2004/0010599).

As to claim 1, Otobe teaches a disclosing method for disclosing browsable information stored in a central apparatus in response to a request sent from a terminal apparatus connected to the central apparatus through a communication network (see page 1, paragraph 1; and page 5, paragraph 64), comprising steps of:

accepting headline information of the browsable information, authorized user information of a user authorized to browse the browsable information, and storage location information of the browsable information (see page 1, paragraph 6);

registering the accepted headline information and the authorized user information in association with the storage location information (see page 1, paragraph 5);

receiving identification information for identifying a user, which identification information is sent from the terminal apparatus to the central apparatus (see page 2, paragraph 21 and page 2, paragraph 22);

extracting the headline information and the storage location information based on the received identification information and the registered authorized user information (see 2, paragraph 21 and page 2, paragraph 22);

generating a document containing a hyperlink made up of the extracted headline information and storage location information (see page 3, paragraph 25); and

transmitting the generated document to the terminal apparatus (see page 2, paragraph 22).

As to claim 2, Otobe teaches wherein:

the accepting step further accepts limitation information for limiting browsing of the browsable information according to whether the request is sent through the communication network or through an auxiliary communication network different from said communication network (see page 1, paragraph 1);

the registering step registers the accepted headline information, limitation information, and authorized user information in association with the storage location information (see page 2, paragraph 22); and

the extracting step extracts the headline information and the storage location information based on the received identification information, the registered authorized user information, and the limitation information when the request is sent through the auxiliary communication network (see page 2, paragraph 21 and page 2, paragraph 22).

As to claim 4, Otobe teaches a disclosing system for disclosing browsable information (see page 8, paragraph 99), comprising:

a central apparatus in which the browsable information is stored (see page 2, paragraph 20); and

a terminal apparatus, which is connected to the central apparatus through a communication network, for sending a request to said central apparatus (see page 1, paragraph 1 and page 5, paragraph 64),

wherein the central apparatus includes a processor (see page 2, paragraph 22 and page 6, paragraph 70) capable of performing operations of:

accepting headline information of the browsable information, authorized user information of a user authorized to browse the browsable information, and storage location information of the browsable information (see page 1, paragraph 6);

registering the accepted headline information and authorized user information in association with the storage location information (see page 1, paragraph 5);

receiving identification information for identifying a user, which identification information is sent from the terminal apparatus to the central apparatus (see page 2, paragraph 21 and page 2, paragraph 22);

extracting the headline information and the storage location information based on the received identification information and the registered authorized user information (see page 2, paragraph 21 and page 2, paragraph 22);

generating a document containing a hyperlink made up of the extracted headline information and storage location information (see page 3, paragraph 25); and

transmitting the generated document to the terminal apparatus (see page 2, paragraph 22).

As to claim 5, Otobe teaches wherein:

the accepting operation is adapted to further accept limitation information for limiting browsing of the browsable information according to whether the request is sent through the communication network or through an auxiliary communication network different from said communication network (see page 1, paragraph 1);

the registering operation is adapted to register the accepted headline information, limitation information, and authorized user information in association with the storage location information (see page 2, paragraph 22); and

the extracting operation is adapted to extract the headline information and the storage location information based on the received identification information and the registered authorized user information and limitation information when the request is sent through the auxiliary communication network (see page 2, paragraph 21 and page 2, paragraph 22).

As to claim 6, Otobe teaches a central apparatus, in which browsable information is stored, for disclosing said browsable information in response to a request sent from outside, comprising a processor (see page 1, paragraph 1 and page 5, paragraph 64) capable of performing operations of:

accepting headline information of the browsable information, authorized user information of a user authorized to browse the browsable information, and storage location information of the browsable information (see page 1, paragraph 6);

registering the accepted headline information and authorized user information in association with the storage location information (see page 1, paragraph 5);

receiving identification information for identifying a user, which identification information is sent from outside (see page 2, paragraph 21 and page 2, paragraph 22);

extracting the headline information and the storage location information based on the received identification information and the registered authorized user information (see page 2, paragraph 21 and page 2, paragraph 22);

generating a document containing a hyperlink made up of the extracted headline information and storage location information (see page 3, paragraph 25); and

transmitting the generated document to the outside (see page 2, paragraph 22).

As to claim 7, Otobe teaches wherein:

the accepting step is adapted to further accept limitation information for limiting browsing of the browsable information according to whether the request from the outside is sent through the communication network or through an auxiliary communication network different from said communication network (see page 1, paragraph 1);

the registering step is adapted to register the accepted headline information, limitation information, and authorized user information in association with the storage location information (see page 2, paragraph 22); and

the extracting step is adapted to extract the headline information and the storage location information based on the received identification information, the registered authorized user information, and the limitation information when the request is sent through the auxiliary communication network (see page 2, paragraph 21 and page 2, paragraph 22).

As to claim 8, Otobe teaches a computer memory product, in which browsable information is stored and a computer program for disclosing said browsable information is recorded in response to a request sent from outside, the computer memory product (see abstract; page 1, paragraph 1, and page 2, paragraph 20) comprising steps of:

causing a computer to accept headline information of the browsable information, authorized user information of a user authorized to browse the browsable information, and storage location information of the browsable information (see page 1, paragraph 6);

causing the computer to register the accepted headline information and authorized user information in association with the storage location information (see page 1, paragraph 5);

causing the computer to receive identification information for identifying a user, the identification information is transmitted from outside (see page 2, paragraph 21 and page 2, paragraph 22);

causing the computer to extract the headline information and the storage location information based on the received identification information and the registered authorized user information (see page 2, paragraph 21 and page 2, paragraph 22);

causing the computer to generate a document containing a hyperlink made up of the extracted headline information and storage location information (see page 3, paragraph 25); and

causing the computer to transmit the generated document to the outside (see page 2, paragraph 22).

As to claim 9, Otobe teaches wherein:

the accepting step cause the computer to further accept limitation information for limiting browsing of the browsable information according to whether the request from the outside is sent through the communication network or through an auxiliary communication network different from said communication network (see page 1, paragraph 1);

the registering step causes the computer to register the accepted headline information, limitation information, and authorized user information in association with the storage location information (see page 2, paragraph 22); and

the extracting step causes the computer to extract the headline information and the storage location information based on the received identification information, the registered authorized user information, and the

limitation information when the request is sent through the auxiliary communication network (see page 2, paragraph 21 and page 2, paragraph 22).

As to claim 10, Otobe teaches a disclosing system for disclosing browsable information (see page 8, paragraph 99), comprising:

a central apparatus in which the browsable information is stored (see page 2, paragraph 20); and

a terminal apparatus, which is connected to the central apparatus through a communication network, for sending a request to said central apparatus (see page 1, paragraph 1 and page 5, paragraph 64), wherein the central apparatus includes:

acceptance means for accepting headline information of the browsable information, authorized user information of a user authorized to browse the browsable information, and storage location information of the browsable information (see page 1, paragraph 6);

registration means for registering the accepted headline information and authorized user information in association with the storage location information (see page 1, paragraph 5);

means for receiving identification information for identifying a user, which identification information is sent from the terminal apparatus to the central apparatus (see page 2, paragraph 21 and page 2, paragraph 22);

extraction means for extracting the headline information and the storage location information based on the received identification information and the registered authorized user information (see page 2, paragraph 21 and page 2, paragraph 22);

generation means for generating a document containing a hyperlink made up of the extracted headline information and storage location information (see page 3, paragraph 25); and

transmission means for transmitting the generated document to the terminal apparatus (see page 2, paragraph 22).

As to claim 11, Otobe teaches wherein:

the acceptance means is adapted to further accept limitation information for limiting browsing of the browsable information according to whether the request is sent through the communication network or through an auxiliary communication network different from said communication network (see page 1, paragraph 1);

the registration means is adapted to register the accepted headline information, limitation information, and authorized user information in association with the storage location information (see page 2, paragraph 22); and

the extraction means is adapted to extract the headline information and the storage location information based on the received identification information, and the registered authorized user information and limitation information when

the request is sent through the auxiliary communication network (see page 2, paragraph 21 and page 2, paragraph 22).

As to claim 12, Otobe teaches a central apparatus, in which browsable information is stored, for disclosing said browsable information in response to a request sent from outside (see page 1, paragraph 1 and page 5, paragraph 64), comprising:

acceptance means for accepting headline information of the browsable information, authorized user information of a user authorized to browse the browsable information, and storage location information of the browsable information (see page 1, paragraph 6);

registration means for registering the accepted headline information and authorized user information in association with the storage location information (see page 1, paragraph 6);

means for receiving identification information for identifying a user, which identification information is sent from outside (see page 2, paragraph 21 and page 2, paragraph 22);

extraction means for extracting the headline information and the storage location information based on the received identification information and the registered authorized user information (see page 2, paragraph 21 and page 2, paragraph 22);

generation means for generating a document containing a hyperlink made up of the extracted headline information and storage location information (see page 3, paragraph 25); and

transmission means for transmitting the generated document to the outside (see page 2, paragraph 22).

As to claim 13, Otobe teaches wherein:

the acceptance means is adapted to further accept limitation information for limiting browsing of the browsable information according to whether the request from the outside is sent through the communication network or through an auxiliary communication network different from said communication network (see page 1, paragraph 1);

the registration means is adapted to register the accepted headline information, limitation information, and authorized user information in association with the storage location information (see page2, paragraph 22); and

the extraction means is adapted to extract the headline information and the storage location information based on the received identification information, the registered authorized user information, and the limitation information when the request is sent through the auxiliary communication network (see 2, paragraph 21 and page 2, paragraph 22).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claim 3 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Otobe (U.S. Pub. No. 2004/0010599) in view of Buckland (U.S. patent 5,999,971).

As to claim 3, Otobe does not teach wherein:

the accepting step accepts first storage location information corresponding to a case where the request is accepted through the communication network and the second storage location information corresponding to a case where the request is accepted through an auxiliary communication network different from said communication network;

the registering step registers the accepted headline information and the authorized user information items in association with the first and the second storage location information; and

the extracting step extracts the headline information and the first storage location information, for which said first storage location information is set, based on the received identification information and the registered authorized user information when the request is sent through the communication network, and,

extracts the headline information and the second storage location information, for which said second, storage location information is set, based on the received identification information and the registered authorized user information when the request is sent through the auxiliary communication network.

Buckland, teaches apparatus and method for identifying clients accessing network sites (see abstract), in which he teaches wherein:

the accepting step accepts first storage location information corresponding to a case where the request is accepted through the communication network and the second storage location information corresponding to a case where the request is accepted through an auxiliary communication network different from said communication network (see figure 2, characters "200 and 202" and column 5, lines 37-55);

the registering step registers the accepted headline information and the authorized user information items in association with the first and the second storage location information (see figure 3, characters "314"); and

the extracting step extracts the headline information and the first storage location information, for which said first storage location information is set, based on the received identification information and the registered authorized user information when the request is sent through the communication network, and, extracts the headline information and the second storage location information, for which said second, storage location information is set, based on the received identification information and the registered authorized user information when the

request is sent through the auxiliary communication network (see figure 6, characters "602" and column 10, lines 1-12).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified Otobe to include wherein:

the accepting step accepts first storage location information corresponding to a case where the request is accepted through the communication network and the second storage location information corresponding to a case where the request is accepted through an auxiliary communication network different from said communication network;

the registering step registers the accepted headline information and the authorized user information items in association with the first and the second storage location information; and

the extracting step extracts the headline information and the first storage location information, for which said first storage location information is set, based on the received identification information and the registered authorized user information when the request is sent through the communication network, and, extracts the headline information and the second storage location information, for which said second, storage location information is set, based on the received identification information and the registered authorized user information when the request is sent through the auxiliary communication network.

It would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the

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art at the time the invention was made to have modified Otobe by the teaching of Buckland, because wherein:

the accepting step accepts first storage location information corresponding to a case where the request is accepted through the communication network and the second storage location information corresponding to a case where the request is accepted through an auxiliary communication network different from said communication network;

the registering step registers the accepted headline information and the authorized user information items in association with the first and the second storage location information; and

the extracting step extracts the headline information and the first storage location information, for which said first storage location information is set, based on the received identification information and the registered authorized user information when the request is sent through the communication network, and, extracts the headline information and the second storage location information, for which said second, storage location information is set, based on the received identification information and the registered authorized user information when the request is sent through the auxiliary communication network, would enable the disclosing method to be more secure, because disclosing two types of browser information, one that has information open to the public and another that is kept secret from the public, provides the mechanism for the right user to access that information.

Conclusion

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Belix M. Ortiz whose telephone number is 703-305-7605. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 9am-5pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Dov Popovici can be reached on 703-305-3830. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-305-3900.

bmo

April 14, 2004



DOV POPOVICI
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2109